

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process comprising:

separating a plurality of persons into first and second groups;

5 communicating an issue to each of the groups, wherein the issue relates to a problem to be addressed by the groups;

evaluating, by each group independently of the other group, the issue that is communicated to the groups;

10 caucusing, by the groups, such that a consensus on an evaluation of the issue is reached;

generating, by each group independently of the other group, a proposed strategy for addressing the problem;

15 caucusing, by the groups such that a consensus is reached on the proposed strategy; and

initiating the selected proposed strategy that represents a consensus among the groups.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the
20 communicating step is performed by a client, and wherein the client also communicates requirement information relating to the issue to the groups, the requirement information defining parameters associated with the issue.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the selected one of the strategies corresponds to a plan operable to guide an execution thereof, and wherein portions of ideas contributed by each of the groups are selectively 5 incorporated into the plan.

4. The method of Claim 3, further comprising providing a feedback loop operable to re-direct the groups to a previous one of the steps in response to one 10 of a new condition and a modified parameter, wherein the new condition and the modified parameter are associated with the issue.

5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising re- 15 organizing the persons into third and fourth groups, wherein the third and fourth group are different from the first and second groups, and wherein the re-organizing step is operable to be implemented at any one of the steps.

20 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the issue is a task in a business environment that is associated with computer software, and wherein the selected one of the strategies is a response associated with accomplishing 25 the task.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the plan is a written document.

30 8. The method of Claim 6, wherein the plan is in a computer readable form.

9. The method of Claim 6, wherein the plan is modified in response to input from the client.

10. The method of Claim 6, wherein the plan includes graphical illustrations that facilitate an understanding of the plan.

11. The method of Claim 6, further comprising constructing and implementing the plan, wherein the 10 constructing step includes development of applications associated with the plan, and wherein the implementing step includes installation of elements that facilitate execution of the plan.

PROCESSED BY THE USPTO'S DOCUMENT IMAGE READER SYSTEM

12. An article of manufacture prepared by a process comprising:

separating a plurality of persons into first and second groups;

5 communicating an issue to each of the groups, wherein the issue relates to a problem to be addressed by the groups;

evaluating, by each group independently of the other group, the issue that is communicated to the groups;

10 caucusing, by the groups, such that a consensus on an evaluation of the issue is reached;

generating, by each group independently of the other group, a proposed strategy for addressing the problem;

15 caucusing, by the groups such that a consensus is reached on the proposed strategy; and

initiating the selected proposed strategy that represents a consensus among the groups, the selected proposed strategy being reflected in the article of manufacture.

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13. The article of manufacture prepared by the process of Claim 12, wherein the communicating step is performed by a client, and wherein the client also communicates requirement information relating to the 25 issue to the groups, the requirement information defining parameters associated with the issue.

14. The article of manufacture of Claim 12, wherein the selected one of the strategies corresponds to a plan operable to guide an execution thereof, and wherein portions of ideas contributed by each of the groups are selectively incorporated into the plan.

15. The article of manufacture of Claim 13, wherein
the issue is a task in a business environment associated
with computer software, and wherein the selected one of
5 the strategies is a response associated with
accomplishing the task.

16. The article of manufacture of Claim 14, wherein
the plan is a written document.

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17. The article of manufacture of Claim 14, wherein
the plan is in a computer readable form.

18. The article of manufacture of Claim 14, further
15 comprising providing a feedback loop operable to re-
direct the groups to a previous one of the steps in
response to one of a new condition and a modified
parameter, wherein the new condition and the modified
parameter are associated with the issue.

RECORDED IN U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

19. A method for performing a business task comprising:

identifying a plurality of subtasks, each having an associated result;

5 assigning a plurality of groups of persons to at least one of the subtasks in order to generate the associated result;

generating, by each group independently of the other, a proposed strategy for addressing the business
10 task;

caucusing, by the groups, resulting in a consensus on the proposed strategy; and

initiating the selected proposed strategy that represents a consensus among the groups, the selected
15 proposed strategy being associated with completion of the business task.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein the subtasks are selected from the group consisting of:

20 a definition step, an analysis step, and a design step, wherein an issue associated with the result is defined at the definition step, the issue being evaluated at the analysis step with a set of proposed strategies relating to the issue being generated at the design step.

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21. The method of Claim 20, wherein each step comprises at least two groups of persons engaged in the associated step.

22. The method of Claim 21, further comprising providing a feedback loop operable to re-direct the groups to a previous one of the steps in response to one of a new condition and a modified parameter, wherein the 5 new condition and the modified parameter are associated with the issue.

23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the selected one of the strategies corresponds to a plan operable to 10 guide an execution thereof, and wherein portions of ideas contributed by each of the groups are selectively incorporated into the plan.

24. The method of Claim 22, wherein the issue is a task in a business environment that is associated with 15 computer software, and wherein the selected one of the strategies is a response associated with accomplishing the task.

20 25. The method of Claim 22, wherein the plan is a written document.

26. The method of Claim 22, further comprising constructing and implementing the plan, wherein the 25 constructing step includes development of applications associated with the plan, and wherein the implementing step includes installation of elements that facilitate execution of the plan.

27. A method of generating computer software, comprising;

accessing requirement information associated with software development from a client;

5 separating a plurality of persons into first and second groups;

communicating a software-related issue to each of the groups, wherein the issue relates to a software problem to be addressed by the groups;

10 evaluating, by each group independently of the other, the issue that is communicated to the groups;

caucusing, by the groups such that a consensus on an evaluation of the issue is reached;

15 generating, by each group independently of the other, a proposed strategy for addressing the software problem;

caucusing, by the groups, such that a consensus on the proposed strategy is reached; and

initiating the selected proposed strategy that
20 represents a consensus among the groups.

28. The method of Claim 27, wherein the communicating step is performed by a client, and wherein the client also communicates requirement information relating to the issue to the groups, the requirement information defining parameters associated with the issue.

29. The method of Claim 28, wherein the selected one of the strategies corresponds to a plan operable to guide an execution thereof, and wherein portions of ideas contributed by each of the groups are selectively incorporated into the plan.

30. The method of Claim 29, further comprising providing a feedback loop operable to re-direct the groups to a previous one of the steps in response to one of a new condition and a modified parameter, wherein the new condition and the modified parameter are associated with the issue.

31. The method of Claim 30, further comprising the step of re-organizing the persons into third and fourth groups, wherein the third and fourth group are different from the first and second groups, and wherein the re-organizing step is operable to be implemented at any one of the steps.

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32. The method of Claim 31, wherein the plan is a written document.

33. The method of Claim 31, wherein the plan may be modified in response to input from the client.

34. The method of Claim 31, further comprising constructing and implementing the plan, wherein the constructing step includes development of applications associated with the plan, and wherein the implementing step includes installation of elements that facilitate execution of the plan.